

I was initially concerned that our project would not be successful. I did not think it would be possible for five college students to put on a full scale production with four different entertainment acts. I did not think that we could all work together to create the amount of energy that needed to be put into such an event. We did have our disputes; some people did more work than others, but the day of the event everyone played a vital role in the production. Luckily, our event went off with only a few minor problems and we raised over \$100 for the Indonesian tsunami victims.

Honestly, this project seemed pointless. What does helping another country have to do with Comparative Politics? Coming into this class I expected to learn about different governments and then compare them to see which are more successful than others. This elementary understanding did not incorporate the values of political culture. A political culture calls for a person to understand the present and future of their political system and worldwide systems. The future of our political system depends on the sanctity of other systems that we are involved with. The tragedy in Indonesia affected their political system. To ensure that it and their country are rebuilt back to the nation it once was, we as Americans are obliged to raise money. In this sense, each system's success is dependent upon help from other systems when in a time of need. This connection is one way the systems are compared, if the help other systems succeed or not.

Although I do not have any connection to the people in Indonesia, nor do I have any real emotion tied to the aftermath of the tsunami, as a self respecting American I did my part in sustaining the political culture of our nation and Indonesia.